

**Remarks/Arguments**

Reconsideration of this application is requested.

**Claim Status**

Claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 1-8, 15 and 18-20 are amended.

**Specification**

The title is objected to as not descriptive. In response, the title is amended to be clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

**Claim Rejections – 35 USC 112**

Claims 1, 3, 4 and 9-14 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. In particular, the Action asserts that claim 1 must be in one sentence form only. In response, the “?” in the body of claim 1 is deleted. Claim 1 is now in one sentence form and in compliance with 35 USC 112.

**Claim Rejections – 35 USC 102**

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as anticipated by Wood (USPN 5,805,433). In response, independent claims 1, 2, 5 and 15 are amended to clearly distinguish over wood. Dependent claims 3, 4, 6-8 and 18-20 are also amended to be consistent with the amendments to the independent claims.

As shown in applicant's Figure 5, a detection circuit 33 is directly connected to a high side transistor (QP1) and a low side transistor (QN1) at a junction point (K) so as to directly detect the intermediate node potential therefrom. Claims 1, 2, 5 and 15 are amended to recite this feature, i.e. that “the detection circuit is directly connected to the high side transistor and the low side transistor at the junction point so as to directly detect the intermediate node potential therefrom”.

Wood, conversely, discloses a sensor for detecting a level of an intermediate node potential VS at a junction point of the high and low side transistors. However, as shown in Figure 3, a sensed voltage Vs, which is only a fraction of the DC output voltage across C1, is obtained via a resistor divider circuit, which is preferably formed by an upper 3.9K resistor, with trim resistor R1 in parallel therewith, and a lower 1K resistor. The Vs signal is coupled to the input of a three terminal shunt

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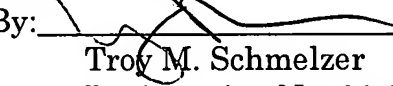
regulator 102, where the common terminal thereof is coupled to -COM and the output terminal is coupled to the C<sub>T</sub> terminal of driver 104. *See Wood, Col. 3, line 63 to Col. 4, line 5.* Thus, Wood does not disclose or suggest a detection circuit that is directly connected to the high side transistor and the low side transistor at the junction point so as to directly detect the intermediate node potential therefrom.

Since Wood does not disclose each and every feature of independent claims 1, 2, 5 and 15, and the claims depending therefrom, it cannot anticipate those claims. For this reason, the rejection of claims 1-20 under 35 USC 102(b) should be withdrawn.

This application is now believed to be in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to resolve any issues that remain after entry of this amendment. Any fees due with this response may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,  
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